

FORM PTO-1390
(REV. 11-2000)

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NUMBER

1781

TRANSMITTAL LETTER TO THE UNITED STATES
DESIGNATED/ELECTED OFFICE (DO/EO/US)
CONCERNING A FILING UNDER 35 U.S.C. 371

U.S. APPLICATION NO. (If known, see 37 CFR 1.5)

09/936390

INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO.
PCT/N000/00076INTERNATIONAL FILING DATE
2 March 2000PRIORITY DATE CLAIMED
15 March 1999

TITLE OF INVENTION

A METHOD AND AN APPARATUS FOR STEREOPROJECTION OF PICTURES

APPLICANT(S) FOR DO/EO/US

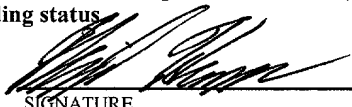
Joar Vaage

Applicant herewith submits to the United States Designated/Elected Office (DO/EO/US) the following items and other information:

1. ☒ This is a **FIRST** submission of items concerning a filing under 35 U.S.C. 371.
2. ☐ This is a **SECOND** or **SUBSEQUENT** submission of items concerning a filing under 35 U.S.C. 371.
3. ☒ This is an express request to begin national examination procedures (35 U.S.C. 371(f)). The submission must include items (5), (6), (9) and (21) indicated below.
4. ☒ The US has been elected by the expiration of 19 months from the priority date (Article 31).
5. ☒ A copy of the International Application as filed (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(2))
 - a. ☐ is attached hereto (required only if not communicated by the International Bureau).
 - b. ☒ has been communicated by the International Bureau.
 - c. ☐ is not required, as the application was filed in the United States Receiving Office (RO/US).
6. ☒ An English language translation of the International Application as filed (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(2)).
 - a. ☐ is attached hereto.
 - b. ☒ has been previously submitted under 35 U.S.C. 154(d)(4).
7. ☒ Amendments to the claims of the International Application under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(3))
 - a. ☐ are attached hereto (required only if not communicated by the International Bureau).
 - b. ☒ have been communicated by the International Bureau.
 - c. ☐ have not been made; however, the time limit for making such amendments has NOT expired.
 - d. ☐ have not been made and will not be made.
8. ☐ An English language translation of the amendments to the claims under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. 371 (c)(3)).
9. ☒ An oath or declaration of the inventor(s) (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(4)).
10. ☒ An English language translation of the annexes of the International Preliminary Examination Report under PCT Article 36 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(5)).

Items 11 to 20 below concern document(s) or information included:

11. ☒ An Information Disclosure Statement under 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. (References enclosed)
12. ☒ An assignment document for recording. A separate cover sheet in compliance with 37 CFR 3.28 and 3.31 is included.
13. ☐ A **FIRST** preliminary amendment.
14. ☐ A **SECOND** or **SUBSEQUENT** preliminary amendment.
15. ☐ A substitute specification.
16. ☒ A change of power of attorney and/or address letter.
17. ☐ A computer-readable form of the sequence listing in accordance with PCT Rule 13ter.2 and 35 U.S.C. 1.821 - 1.825.
18. ☐ A second copy of the published international application under 35 U.S.C. 154(d)(4).
19. ☐ A second copy of the English language translation of the international application under 35 U.S.C. 154(d)(4).
20. ☒ Other items or information: See attachment.

U.S. APPLICATION NO. 09/936390		INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO. PCT/N000/00076		ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NUMBER 1781		
21. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The following fees are submitted: BASIC NATIONAL FEE (37 CFR 1.492 (a) (1) - (5)): Neither international preliminary examination fee (37 CFR 1.482) nor international search fee (37 CFR 1.445(a)(2)) paid to USPTO and International Search Report not prepared by the EPO or JPO. \$1000.00 International preliminary examination fee (37 CFR 1.482) not paid to USPTO but International Search Report prepared by the EPO or JPO \$860.00 International preliminary examination fee (37 CFR 1.482) not paid to USPTO but international search fee (37 CFR 1.445(a)(2)) paid to USPTO \$710.00 International preliminary examination fee (37 CFR 1.482) paid to USPTO but all claims did not satisfy provisions of PCT Article 33(1)-(4) \$690.00 International preliminary examination fee (37 CFR 1.482) paid to USPTO and all claims satisfied provisions of PCT Article 33(1)-(4) \$100.00 ENTER APPROPRIATE BASIC FEE AMOUNT =				CALCULATIONS PTO USE ONLY		
				\$860.00		
Surcharge of \$130.00 for furnishing the oath or declaration later than <input type="checkbox"/> 20 <input type="checkbox"/> 30 months from the earliest claimed priority date (37 CFR 1.492(e)).				\$		
CLAIMS	NUMBER FILED	NUMBER EXTRA	RATE	\$		
Total claims	2 - 20 =	0	x \$18.00	\$ 0		
Independent claims	2 - 3 =	0	x \$80.00	\$ 0		
MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM(S) (if applicable)			+ \$270.00	\$		
TOTAL OF ABOVE CALCULATIONS =				\$ 860.00		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27. The fees indicated above are reduced by 1/2.				\$		
SUBTOTAL =				\$ 430.00		
Processing fee of \$130.00 for furnishing the English translation later than <input type="checkbox"/> 20 <input type="checkbox"/> 30 months from the earliest claimed priority date (37 CFR 1.492(f)).				\$		
TOTAL NATIONAL FEE =				\$ 430.00		
Fee for recording the enclosed assignment (37 CFR 1.21(h)). The assignment must be accompanied by an appropriate cover sheet (37 CFR 3.28, 3.31). \$40.00 per property +				\$ 40.00		
TOTAL FEES ENCLOSED =				\$ 470.00		
				Amount to be refunded:	\$	
				charged:	\$	
a. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A check in the amount of \$ <u>470.00</u> to cover the above fees is enclosed. b. <input type="checkbox"/> Please charge my Deposit Account No. _____ in the amount of \$ _____ to cover the above fees. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed. c. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. <u>13-1940</u> . A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed. d. <input type="checkbox"/> Fees are to be charged to a credit card. WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.						
NOTE: Where an appropriate time limit under 37 CFR 1.494 or 1.495 has not been met, a petition to revive (37 CFR 1.137 (a) or (b)) must be filed and granted to restore the application to pending status.						
SEND ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO Timothy J. Martin, P.C. 9250 W. 5th Avenue, Suite 200 Lakewood, Colorado 80226 (303) 232-3388						
				 SIGNATURE		
				Michael R. Henson NAME		
				39,222 REGISTRATION NUMBER		

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09/936390

Our depth sight is connected with the fact that right and left eye sees the surroundings from a different place and under a somewhat different angle. One eye sees a picture differing from the picture that the other eye sees, and the brain co-ordinates the two such that we experience three dimensions.

10 It is known to create pictures with a three-dimensional effect by letting right and left eye see a picture of its own, e.g. two photos taken from two points spaced correspondingly to a normal mutual distance between the eyes of a human being. There exist special cameras for such
15 purposes, so-called stereo cameras, having two objectives.

In recent years, techniques used in order to achieve three-dimensional effect in photos, developed to comprise pictures that can be transferred electronically, such as video and

digitized images, and it has been developed technique that makes it possible to show both still pictures and moving pictures on screen.

To let a viewer experience three-dimensional effect, the picture photographed or made in some other way for the right eye must be shown for the right eye, and the picture photographed or made in some other way for the left eye, must be shown for the left eye. If both pictures are shown for both eyes, a blurred (unsharp) picture is experienced, and the three-dimensional effect fails.

In order to avoid that right eye sees the picture belonging to left eye, and vice versa, the pictures may be viewed through an ocular for each eye, in a so-called stereoscope. This gives a good three-dimensional effect, but it is not very suited for pictures to be viewed by several persons simultaneously, e.g. in a cinema hall.

It is known to divide right and left picture in narrow stripes which are assembled alternately to form one picture. When viewing the picture stripes through glass or plastic, where prisms are formed parallel to the pictures stripes, it is achieved that right eye sees picture stripes belonging to right picture, and that left eye sees picture stripes belonging to left picture.

Further, it is known to print two pictures, one for right eye and one for left eye in registry on paper. Such pictures are viewed through special spectacles separating the pictures from each other, so that right eye sees one picture and left eye sees the other picture.

In one type of spectacles, spectacle glasses having different colour for each eye is used, as an example a red and a bluish green. Each picture is prefiltered before printing. Right picture is printed in complementary colour to left picture
5 and left spectacle glass, and vice versa. Then, each eye sees a different picture. The technique is also used when projecting two pictures in registry on a screen (canvas), and it is possible to show moving pictures, film and animations in this way.

10 The technique which also may be used for television, has several disadvantages. The filtration and the spectacle glasses influence the colour balance, and it is not achieved an adequate separation of the pictures for right and left eye. Each eye experiences a portion of the picture meant for
15 the opposite eye and the picture is, thus, experienced as unsharp.

Another known way of separating pictures for right and left eye consists in that a picture for each eye is projected in registry on a screen by means of polarized light. The
20 polarization for the one picture is at right angles on the polarization for the other, and the viewer uses spectacles having glasses each correspondingly being polarized for letting through light for one of the pictures only. By means of this, less colour error is achieved than by using colour
25 filter, and a better picture separation is obtained.

Upon transfer of electronic pictures, such as video pictures, it has been found to be difficult to synchronize two parallel picture signals in a flickerfree way. In connection with projecting video pictures or pictures from computers, it has
30 proved advantageous to transfer picture for alternate right

and left eye in a common channel in lieu of in two parallel channels. This means that every second picture transferred, belongs to right eye, while the rest belongs to left eye. The pictures are projected on a screen and are viewed through
5 spectacles having glasses which can shut and open in step with an electric signal alternating synchronously with the pictures. Such spectacle glasses utilize liquid crystals. Left spectacle glass is shut while right picture is projected, and right spectacle glass is shut while left
10 picture is projected.

This known technique gives a good effect, but it has several disadvantages. The spectacles are expensive, and they have to be provided with an electric signal for synchronization with the stream of pictures, which can be difficult in a cinema
15 hall. In practice, the technique is usable only for stationary plants. Also, great demands are made upon the projector which has to operate with double picture frequency. The high picture rate involves that reasonable projectors in which the picture is formed by means of liquid crystals, can
20 not be used.

The object of the invention is to provide a method and a simplified device in order to achieve stereo projection of pictures represented by a picture signal which cyclically alternates between picture for right and left eye.

25 The object is obtained by means of features as defined in the following description and the following claims.

According to the invention, a picture signal is received which in known manner alternate between picture for right and left eye.

First picture received in incoming picture signal; is decoded and, possibly, digitized into a first digital picture which is stored in a first digital storage device, typically a cache memory in a computer. First digital storage device is
5 searched as known, and from the content is formed an outgoing first picture signal. Second picture received in incoming picture signal, is decoded and digitized correspondingly to first picture, and is stored in a second digital storage device. Second digital storage device is searched, and from
10 the content is formed a second outgoing picture signal. Following pictures received in incoming picture signal are, thereupon, stored alternately in first and second digital storage device.

First outgoing picture signal is passed to a first
15 projector, and second outgoing picture signal is passed to a second projector. Even if incoming picture signal has double picture rate, each projector operates with normal picture rate, so that ordinary projectors can be used.

Each of said first and second digital storage device may
20 advantageously be divided into two or more areas used cyclically. Thus, third picture can be received, decoded, digitized and stored separately from first picture and without overwriting the same. Fifth picture may be stored at the same place as first picture and overwrite the same, while
25 third picture is intact and may be projected during receipt and storing of fifth picture.

Correspondingly, fourth picture can be received, decoded, digitized and stored separately from second picture, without overwriting the same. Sixth picture can be stored at the

same place as second picture and overwrite the same while fourth picture is projected.

With such a division and cyclic use of first and second digital storage device, great tolerance in respect of the picture rate in incoming picture signal is achieved. This is a great advantage when picture signals are transferred through data network where the transfer speed may vary greatly, and where picture data may get lost.

The picture from one projector is projected such that it can be viewed by one eye, and the picture from the other projector is projected such that it can be viewed by the other eye. In a preferred arrangement, picture from first and second projector is projected in registry on a screen by means of polarized light, and the pictures are viewed through spectacles having polarized glass, such as explained.

By means of the invention is achieved that each and every projected picture can be renewed in a cycle that only depends on the frequency with which the digital storage devices are scanned. Even if this may involve that the same picture is shown several times if incoming picture rate descends, a substantial reduction of flicker is obtained as compared with known technique where picture projection follows incoming picture rate.

A device for carrying out the described method is described in the following by means of two exemplary embodiments, and reference is made to attached drawings, wherein:

Figure 1 shows a simplified block scheme for a first embodiment of the invention;

Figure 2 shows a simplified block scheme for a second embodiment of the invention.

In figure 1, the reference numeral 1 denotes a right projector adapted to project a picture to be seen by right eye, in registry with a projected picture from a
5 corresponding, left projector 2 projecting a picture to be seen by left eye.

Right projector 1 is coupled to and receives its picture signal from a right picture generator 3. Left projector 2 is
10 coupled correspondingly to a left picture generator 4. Each picture generator 3, 4 is adapted to scan a picture storage and generate a picture signal causing the projector 1, 2 belonging thereto, to project a visible picture belonging thereto, on a screen.

15 Right picture generator 3 is adapted to scan periodically an area within a right picture storage 5, and left picture generator 4 is correspondingly adapted to scan periodically an area within a left picture storage 6. Right picture storage 5 is divided into a first right picture area 7 and a
20 second right picture area 8. Left picture storage 6 is correspondingly divided into a first left picture area 9 and a second left picture area 10.

A right picture selector 11 is adapted to react on a control signal and connects, alternately, right picture generator 3
25 to first or second picture area 7, 8 in right picture storage 5 and, thus, determines if right projector 1 projects a picture based on first or second picture area 7, 8. A left picture selector 12 is, correspondingly, adapted to react on a control signal, alternately connecting left picture

generator 4 to first or second picture area 9, 10 in left picture storage 6, thus determining if left projector 2 projects a picture based on first or second picture area 9, 10.

- 5 A right decoder 13 is adapted to receive a picture signal and store values representing the picture signal, in right picture storage 5 on a format which right picture generator 3 is adapted to convert to picture signals for right projector 1. A left decoder 14 is, correspondingly, adapted to receive
10 a picture signal and store values representing the picture signal, in left picture storage 6 on a format which left picture generator 4 is adapted to convert into picture signals for left projector 2.

- Between right decoder 13 and right picture storage 5, is
15 disposed a right area selector 15 adapted to respond to a control signal, alternately connecting the decoder 13 to second or first picture area 8, 7 in right picture storage 5 and, thus, determine whether the decoder 13 stores values in second or first picture area 8, 7. Right picture selector 11
20 and right area selector 15 alternate such that right picture generator 3 and right decoder 13 are coupled to opposite picture area 7, 8 in right picture storage 5. Intermediate left decoder 14 and left picture storage 6 is, correspondingly, disposed a left area selector 16 adapted to
25 respond to a control signal, alternately connecting the decoder 14 to second or first picture area 10, 9 in left picture storage 6 and, thus, determine whether the decoder 14 is storing values in second or first picture area 10, 9. Left picture selector 12 and left area selector 16 alternate such
30 that left picture generator 4 and left decoder 14 are coupled to opposite picture area 9, 10 in left picture storage 6.

A page selector 17 is adapted to respond to control signals and alternately connect a conductor 18 for an incoming picture signal to right decoder 13 or left decoder 14.

A controller 19 is adapted to sense the incoming picture
5 signal and recognize signal values or signal codes defining a new picture and giving switching signals to the page selector 17 for each picture. Right decoder 13 is adapted to give switching signal to right area selector 15 and right picture selector 11 each and every time the decoder has stored a new
10 picture in right picture storage 5. Left decoder 14 is adapted to give switching signal to left area selector 16 and left picture selector 12 each and every time the decoder has stored a new picture in right picture storage 6.

Each picture generator 3, 4 feeds new picture to right or
15 left, respectively, projector 1, 2, following a fixed picture rate, e.g. sixty times per second, even if incoming picture rate varies. In lack of new picture information, the picture generators 3, 4 will repeat last picture.

The right picture selector may alternate while the right
20 picture generator 3 is about transferring picture signals to the projector 1. Advantageously, the picture generator 3 may be formed with internal storage, not shown, having a capacity for one picture, only scanning right picture storage 5 each time it has completed the transfer of one picture to right
25 projector 1. Thus, a projected picture consisting of parts from two pictures is avoided. Correspondingly, left picture selector 12 may come to alternate while left picture generator 4 is in the course of transferring picture signals to the projector 2. Advantageously, the picture generator 4
30 may also be formed with internal storage, not shown, having a

capacity for one picture, only scanning left picture storage 6 each and every time it has completed to transfer a picture to left projector 2. Thus, a projected picture consisting of parts from two pictures is avoided.

- 5 A second and preferred embodiment of the invention is shown in figure 2, where the projectors 1, 2 are connected to a common picture storage 20 through a picture 11 selector and 12 of their own, respectively. Possible picture generator for each of the projectors 1, 2 is not shown, but it may be
- 10 disposed correspondingly to the described one. The picture storage 20 is divided into four picture areas 21, 22, 23, 24. A controller 25 is adapted to read and store picture signal in the conductor 18 in the picture storage 20 one of the picture areas 21, 22, 23, 24 through an area selector 26.
- 15 Pictures are stored in consecutive succession, so that first picture is stored in picture area 21, the next in 22 and so forth until all picture areas have been used. Next picture is stored in 21, and the process repeats itself, the picture storage 20 being organized as a ring buffer.
- 20 Through its picture selector 11, projector 1 reads a picture stored in picture area 21 or 23. Through its picture selector 12, projector 2 reads a picture stored in picture area 22 or 24. Thus, each projector 1, 2 reads every second picture from the picture storage 20.
- 25 The alternating cycle for the picture selectors 11 and 12 is adjusted such that the gathered projected picture becomes as free of flicker as possible. The picture cycle at each projector 1, 2 may e.g. be equal to half of the cycle in incoming pictures when it is lower then one predetermined
- 30 value and, thereupon, restricted to an upper picture cycle if

AMENDED SHEET

incoming picture cycle increases beyond the same. Typically, incoming picture cycle should be lower than 85 pictures per second cause a corresponding outgoing picture cycle. Above this limit, e.g. outgoing picture cycle may be halved.

- 5 Likewise, the picture cycle to each projector 1, 2 can be restricted to a minimum value, so that a stable picture is maintained at incoming picture signal which has an extremely low cycle.

10

FOOTNOTES

A m e n d e d C l a i m s

1. A method for stereo projection of pictures represented by a picture signal alternating cyclically between picture intended for right eye and picture intended for left eye, and wherein first and, thereupon, each odd number picture received, is transferred to a first projector (1), and second and, thereupon, each even number picture received, is transferred to second projector (2), c h a r a c t e r i z e d i n that picture signals for odd number pictures are decoded and stored in a first picture storage (5) which is scanned periodically and projected by first projector (1), and that picture signals for even number pictures are decoded and stored in a second picture storage (6) which is scanned periodically and projected by said second projector (2).
2. A device for stereo projection of pictures represented by a picture signal which alternates cyclically between picture intended for right eye and picture intended for left eye, c h a r a c t e r i z e d i n a page selector (17) adapted to transmit picture signals for first and, thereupon, each odd number picture to a first projector (1) and second and, thereupon, each even number picture to a second projector (2), and that said page selector (17) is assigned a control unit (19) adapted to sense the incoming picture signal and recognize signal values or signal codes indicating new picture and to transmit alternate to said page selector (17) for each picture.

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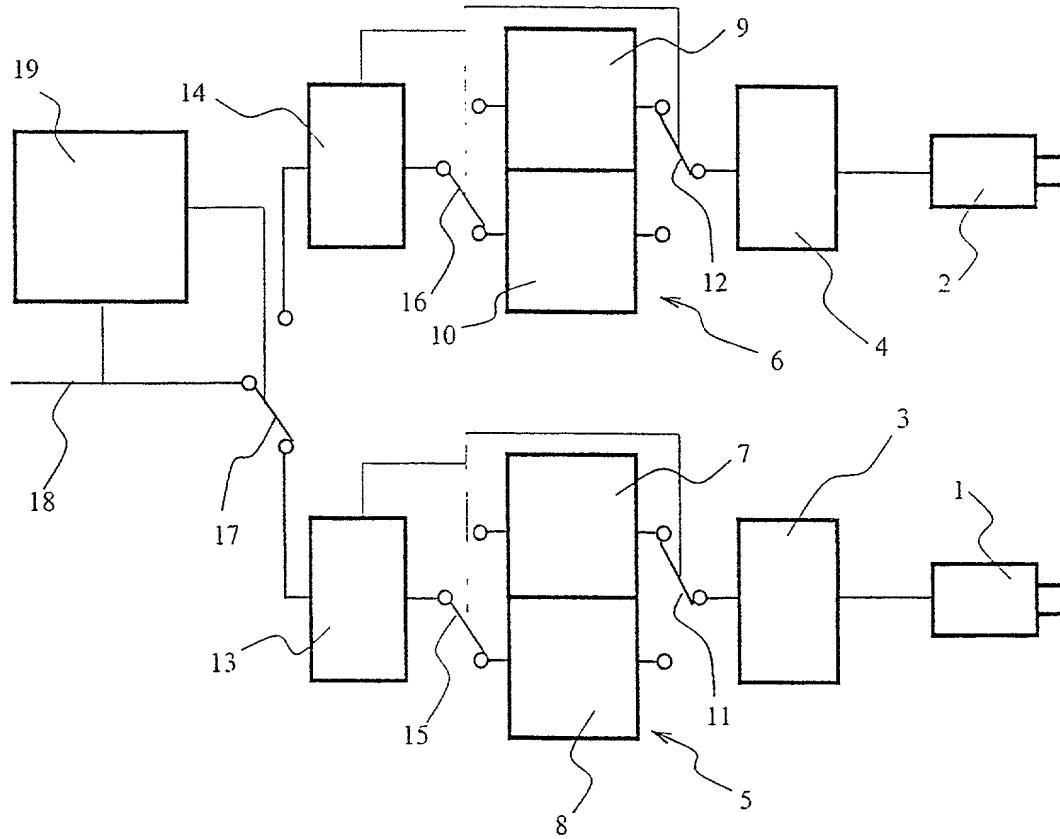


Fig. 1

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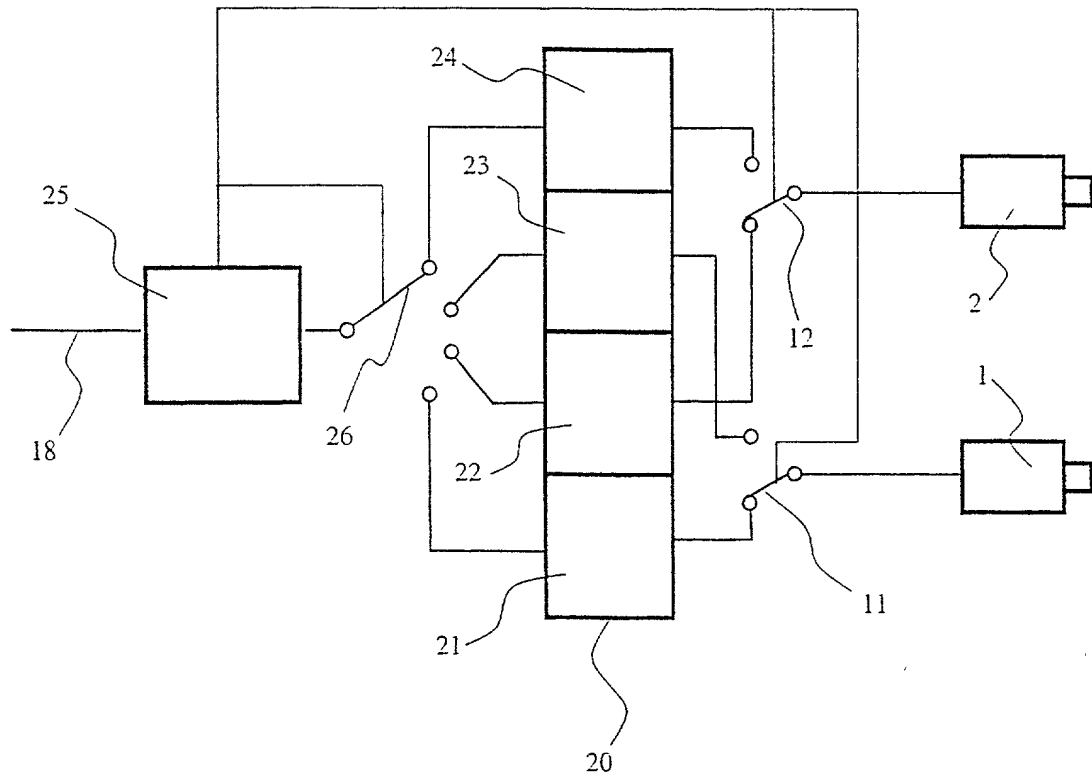


Fig. 2

PTO/SB/01 (03-01)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0851-0032
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NAME OF SOLE OR FIRST INVENTOR: ☐

A petition has been filed for this unsigned inventor

Given Name
(first and middle [if any])

Joar

Family Name
or Surname

Vaage

Inventor's
Signature

Date 10.09.01

Residence: City

Stavanger

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Norway

Citizenship

Norwegian

Mailing Address Karlsminnegt. 24, N-4014 Stavanger, Stavanger

City

Stavanger

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ZIP

Country Norway

NAME OF SECOND INVENTOR: ☐

A petition has been filed for this unsigned inventor

Given Name
(first and middle [if any])Family Name
or SurnameInventor's
Signature

Date

Residence: City

State

Country

Citizenship

Mailing Address

City

State

ZIP

Country

☐ Additional inventors are being named on the _____ supplemental Additional Inventor(s) sheet(s) PTO/SB/02A attached hereto.

FOUO 06090600

PTO/SB/01 (03-01)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0851-0092

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DECLARATION FOR UTILITY OR DESIGN PATENT APPLICATION (37 CFR 1.63)

☒ Declaration Submitted with Initial Filing OR ☐ Declaration Submitted after Initial Filing (surcharge (37 CFR 1.16 (e)) required)

Attorney Docket Number 1781

First Named Inventor Joar Vaage

COMPLETE IF KNOWN

Application Number

Filing Date

Group Art Unit

Examiner Name

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, mailing address, and citizenship are as stated below next to my name.

I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled:

A METHOD AND AN APPARATUS FOR STEREOPROJECTION OF PICTURES

(Title of the invention)

the specification of which

☐ is attached hereto

OR

☒ was filed on (MM/DD/YYYY) 03/02/2000

as United States Application Number or PCT International

Application Number PCT/N000/00076 and was amended on (MM/DD/YYYY) (If applicable).

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment specifically referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR 1.56, including for continuation-in-part applications, material information which became available between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of the continuation-in-part application.

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d) or (f), or 365(b) of any foreign application(s) for patent, inventor's or plant breeder's rights certificate(s), or 365(a) of any PCT international application which designated at least one country other than the United States of America, listed below and have also identified below, by checking the box, any foreign application for patent, inventor's or plant breeder's rights certificate(s), or any PCT international application having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed.

Prior Foreign Application Number(s)	Country	Foreign Filing Date (MM/DD/YYYY)	Priority Not Claimed	Certified Copy Attached?	
				YES	NO
19991265	Norway	03/15/1999	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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☐ Additional foreign application numbers are listed on a supplemental priority data sheet PTO/SB/02B attached hereto:

[Page 1 of 2]

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